



As members of the Body of Christ, we must recognize that we were not only saved to go to heaven but also to live a life here on earth that reflects our connection to God. One of the most important ways we do that is through a PRAYER LIFE. This week's Sunday school lesson reminds us that prayer should not be treated as a side activity—something we do during scheduled times or just when we're in trouble. Prayer life is not just prayer time. It is a living, breathing part of who we are as born-again believers. Just as breathing is essential to our physical life, prayer is essential to our spiritual life. If we stop breathing, we die. If we stop praying, we become spiritually dry and disconnected. That's why we must be occupied with this in 2025, both as individual believers and as a Church. I Thess. 5:17 sums this up, *"Pray without ceasing."*

We must understand that the moment we were born again, it all began with prayer. We prayed to receive Christ as our Lord and Saviour. We confessed our sins. We called upon the name of the Lord. Rom. 10:13 says, *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."* That calling, that prayer, was our entrance into eternal life—into the abundant life Jesus spoke about in John 10:10. That life is not just about existing, but about walking with God every day, and we do that through a consistent prayer life. So if we started with prayer, why would we now live without it? This is why, as a Bible-based Baptist Church, we must make sure that prayer is not just a program or an event—it should be our Church culture, the heartbeat of everything we do. Our text and memory verse clearly express this truth.

This verse is more than a promise—it is a call to a vibrant prayer life. God gave this to Jeremiah while he was imprisoned, to remind him and the people of Judah that even in crisis, prayer remains the way forward. It tells us that God is not silent, and that He wants us to reach out to Him because He's ready to respond. This verse teaches us that prayer is not just about presenting requests; it is a conversation with the living God who desires to reveal things beyond our understanding. So as a Church, this is where we must truly be OCCUPIED—not just in external ministry, but in the internal power that fuels all ministry: prayer.

The phrase, *"Call unto me..."* is a clear invitation. The word, call, carries the sense of crying out,

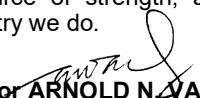
summoning someone, or calling by name. It's not a passive or formal prayer—it's a heartfelt, urgent call to God. Like Hannah in I Sam. 1:10, who *"was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore,"* we are called to pour out our hearts before God. This isn't something only pastors or leaders should do—it is something all of us are commanded to do.

The phrase, *"...and I will answer thee..."* is God's assurance. The word *"answer"* means more than just a reply—it means to respond, to pay attention, to act. It tells us that our prayers are not ignored. Like Elijah on Mount Carmel in I Kings 18, who prayed and saw fire fall from heaven, we too can expect that when we pray in faith, God will move. As a Church, we should make room to recognize and celebrate answered prayers.

The phrase, *"...and show thee great and mighty things..."* suggest things that are beyond our reach. The phrase further means "fortified, inaccessible, or hidden." These are things we cannot discover by ourselves, but God can reveal them through prayer. In Daniel 2, God revealed King Nebuchadnezzar's secret dream to Daniel because he and his friends prayed earnestly. Likewise, when our Church seeks direction—whether it's starting a new ministry, choosing leaders, or navigating difficult situations—we must pray first.

The phrase, *"...which thou knowest not."* reminds us that prayer brings us into areas beyond our human understanding. The phrase further implies experiential knowledge—something you can't learn unless it is shown or revealed. Like Peter in Acts 10, who learned through a vision in prayer that the Gospel was for the Gentiles too, we also need to grow in areas we do not yet know. In our Church setting, we can have teaching and prayer nights that explore the deeper truths of God's Word, allowing time not only to study but to pray together and ask God to show us more.

Let us remember: this is not just our Sunday school topic—it is our lifestyle. We began with prayer when we were born again, and we continue in prayer as we grow. As a Bible-based and Baptist church in the Philippines, let us not just talk about prayer—let us live it. Let our prayer life be our spiritual breath, our source of strength, and the foundation of every ministry we do.

  
Pastor ARNOLD N. VALLEJO

# Happening today...

MINISTRY APPRECIATION SUNDAY 07.20.25

PROVERBS 19:17



OCCUPIED in providing a brand new life in Christ

This Sunday, we shine the spotlight on **Keepers of His Heart Foundation Incorporated** Ministry—a vital foundation within our church that offers individuals and families a brand new life in Christ. Through compassionate outreach and discipleship, this ministry reaches out to the broken, the needy, and the lost, leading them to restoration and hope through the Gospel.

Their labor is more than just a program—it is a living expression of Christ's love in action. By giving time, care, and spiritual guidance, they help bring healing to hearts and direction to lives.

Truly, they reflect the heart of our Savior in ministering to those occupied in the work of the Lord. *"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."* — Proverbs 19:17 (KJV)

## July 2025

20	KOHFI Ministry Appreciation Sunday
27	Ministry for the Gifted Appreciation Sunday

## August 2025

3	Multimedia Ministry Appreciation Sunday
10	Musicians Ministry Appreciation Sunday
12-13	Round-the-Clock Prayer and Fasting
17	Sunday School Ministry Appreciation Sunday
21	Men's Fellowship ( <i>Ninoy Aquino Day</i> )
24	Sceptre College Ministry Appreciation Sunday
25	Investors Conference ( <i>National Heroes Day</i> )

Don't miss it! Be occupied!

## Celebrating an Occupied Week for the Lord!



This week, we recognize **31 frontliners** who have recorded at least 20 souls won, three (3) Bible studies, and/or one (1) guest. Overall, we thank the Lord for a total of **94 Bible studies**, **7 Good News Classes**, and **2 Extension Classes** held, with **750 souls** saved.

## in case you missed it...

Last Sunday, our Transport Ministry was honored in a special appreciation segment. Tokens of gratitude were given to recognize their faithful service in bringing people safely to church each week.



After the service, they held a fellowship and reviewed their Statement of Understanding to strengthen their commitment and unity in serving the Lord.

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# TITLE: OCCUPY 2025 IN THE MINISTRY AS AN ORGANIZED BODY OF CHRIST BY OUR VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE (Part 1)

TEXT: JAMES 5:1-20

MEMORY VERSE: JEREMIAH 33:3

*Call unto me, and I will answer thee,  
and show thee great and mighty things,  
which thou knowest not.*

## I. LET EACH OF US OCCUPY 2025 IN THE MINISTRY AS AN ORGANIZED BODY OF CHRIST BY OUR VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE COUPLED WITH

A. A vibrant prayer life begins with a contrite heart, for it is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ spirit that God does not despise. Psalm 34:18 says, *"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."* The word contrite means "crushed" or "ground to pieces." A contrite heart is not merely a sad or guilty heart—it is a heart crushed by the weight of sin, aware of its unworthiness before God, and sincerely repentant.

B. Our text in verse 1 reads, *"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you."* This verse isn't a condemnation of riches in themselves, but of the unjust use of wealth and the \_\_\_\_\_ of hearts that often follows. The phrase *"weep and howl"* uses intense language to call for deep sorrow and lamentation, similar to the Old Testament prophetic rebukes. The word *"weep"* is used of deep mourning, and *"howl"* was often used in wailing at judgment.

C. Verse 2 of our text continues, *"Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten."* This shows the \_\_\_\_\_ nature of earthly riches. The word, corrupted, implies decay, and this would recall images of rotting food or

mildewed treasure, unfit for use. In the time James was writing, garments were signs of status, and having multiple garments was a show of wealth. But now these riches are shown as useless and rotted, revealing that storing wealth selfishly leads to ruin.

D. Verse 3 adds, *"Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you."* The word, \_\_\_\_\_, means tarnished or corroded. In many cultures, gold and silver symbolized security and permanence. Here, James exposes the foolishness of trusting in things that decay. The rust becomes a testimony—like a courtroom witness—exposing the selfishness that kept wealth locked away rather than used to help the needy.

E. Our text in verse 4 also warns, *"Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields... crieth."* The cries of the defrauded \_\_\_\_\_ are likened to those that reach "into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth," a title that means *"Lord of Hosts"*—the commander of heavenly armies. This shows that God defends the wronged. Just like Abel's blood cried to God in Gen. 4:10, the voices of the oppressed rise up as a plea for justice. If we neglect to repent of injustices we've participated in or ignored, we risk praying while God is answering someone else's cry—against us.

F. In our text in verse 5, we further read James' rebuke: *"Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton."* The term, \_\_\_\_\_, implies self-indulgent, unrestrained luxury. This isn't merely about wealth, but about heart posture. We cannot live to please ourselves and expect our

prayers to please God. Like the prodigal son who spent all in riotous living and had to return with a broken heart, we too must return from spiritual laziness, indulgence, and vanity.

- G. Finally, our text in verse 6 declares, “*Ye have condemned and killed the just; and ye doth not resist you.*” This refers to acts of \_\_\_\_\_, slander, or suppression of the innocent. Whether it’s active harm or silent complicity, we must confess and forsake such behavior. The just man mentioned here mirrors Christ Himself—silent before His accusers.

## II. LET EACH OF US OCCUPY 2025 IN THE MINISTRY AS AN ORGANIZED BODY OF CHRIST BY OUR VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE AMIDST \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. A vibrant prayer life is sustained with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_—two essential qualities we need as believers. Such characters are perfected in the crucible of trials and temptations. Our text in verse 7 begins with a gentle but firm command: “*Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.*” The word patient here means “*to be long-tempered,*” or to have a long fuse, especially under suffering or provocation. This isn’t passive waiting—it is active, hopeful waiting that trusts God’s timing. James uses the illustration of a farmer, who waits for the earth to yield her precious fruit, being patient through the early and latter rain.
- B. Further, verse 8 of our text encourages us: “*Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*” The repetition of word, patient, emphasizes that this is not a temporary attitude. We are called to be fixed in our purpose. The word, \_\_\_\_\_, means “*to strengthen, to set firmly.*” A vibrant prayer life helps us do just that—it keeps our hearts grounded in God’s promises rather than

shifting with every trial.

- C. In verse 9 of our text, we are commanded, “*Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.*” This is a reminder that in our trials, we can be tempted to turn on each other. The word, \_\_\_\_\_, means to groan inwardly or sigh with irritation. It’s the frustration that builds when we’re under pressure. But God calls us to bring those sighs to Him in prayer—not to one another in bitterness. This is another way that a vibrant prayer life works: it turns inward complaints into upward cries.
- D. Our text in verses 10–11 gives us powerful examples of endurance: “*Take, my brethren, the prophets... for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience ... Ye have heard of the patience of Job.*” These verses remind us that others before us endured great suffering and found strength in their \_\_\_\_\_ with God. Job’s patience—again—was not silent suffering but persistent trust. He questioned, he lamented, but he never let go of God. In Job 1:20–22, even after losing everything, he worshipped. In Job 13:15 he said, “*Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him.*” That’s the fruit of a vibrant prayer life—deep trust, even in the unknown.
- E. Let us also not forget \_\_\_\_\_. His life was a long trial filled with betrayal, false accusation, and imprisonment. But from the pit to the palace, Joseph never lost his connection to God. Though the Bible does not record long prayers from Joseph, we see the results of his intimate walk with the Lord in Gen. 39:2–3, where it says, “*the Lord was with Joseph.*” His ability to interpret dreams, to forgive his brothers, and to save nations in famine was all rooted in his spiritual life. His endurance was not based on ambition, but on trust—trust that God’s hand was



still at work.

- F. Vibrant prayer is not just about saying the right words—it is about enduring the hard seasons with our eyes \_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord. Patience means we are willing to suffer for a long time without surrendering our hope. Endurance means we remain under pressure, supported by prayer, not crushed by circumstances. In 2025, with all its distractions, difficulties, and pressures, let us not run from trials but endure them through a vibrant prayer life.

### III. LET EACH OF US OCCUPY 2025 IN THE MINISTRY AS AN ORGANIZED BODY OF CHRIST BY OUR VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE IN \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. A vibrant prayer life is clearly expressed in our truthfulness and integrity—not only in how we speak but in how we \_\_\_\_\_. Our text in verse 12 tells us, *“But above all things, my brethren, swear not... but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.”* This is not just about avoiding cursing or swearing—it’s a call to let our words carry weight because our lives reflect truth. The word *truthfulness* means “faithfulness, consistency, or honesty.” Integrity means “wholeness” or “completeness.”
- B. Jesus affirms this in Matt. 5:37, saying, *“Let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”* Our \_\_\_\_\_ should be trustworthy on their own—we shouldn’t have to pile up oaths to convince others we’re telling the truth. That kind of honesty flows from a pure heart, which is also the kind of heart that God hears when we pray.
- C. When we look at \_\_\_\_\_, we find a powerful example. In Job 2:3, God Himself says that Job *“holdeth fast his integrity.”* Even after losing everything,

Job refused to curse God or turn to falsehood. Job 27:4–6 says, *“My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit... till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.”* This was not pride—it was the fruit of a man who walked closely with God and whose prayer life flowed from a life of integrity.

- D. We see this again in the life of \_\_\_\_\_. In Acts 24:16, Paul says, *“I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.”* His prayer life and ministry were powerful because he lived in truth—he did not manipulate, twist facts, or pretend. In II Cor. 1:12, Paul writes, *“our rejoicing is this... that in simplicity and godly sincerity... we have had our conversation in the world.”* Paul’s life of truthfulness gave weight to his prayers, and God answered him with mighty signs, deliverances, and wisdom.
- E. To maintain truthfulness and integrity in both conduct and speech, we must daily \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves in the mirror of God’s Word. Psalm 15 gives us a checklist: *“He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart... He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.”* That’s the one who dwells in God’s presence. We must pray for God to help us be honest even when it’s costly, and to be consistent even when no one is watching.

### Conclusion:

In light of all that we’ve seen from God’s Word, we must truly recognize that each of us as individual Christians, and together as the Church, must endeavor to have a vibrant prayer life—and this is what we should be most occupied with. A vibrant prayer life is not something hidden or passive; it is a living, breathing part of us that aligns our private life with our public witness and produces a consistent walk with God that impacts others for good. It is

the kind of prayer life that God hears and answers because it flows from a life that is real—one marked by a contrite heart before the Lord, patient endurance and peace in the midst of trials and temptations, and a steadfast commitment to truthfulness and integrity in both speech and behavior. This is the kind of prayer life that not only draws

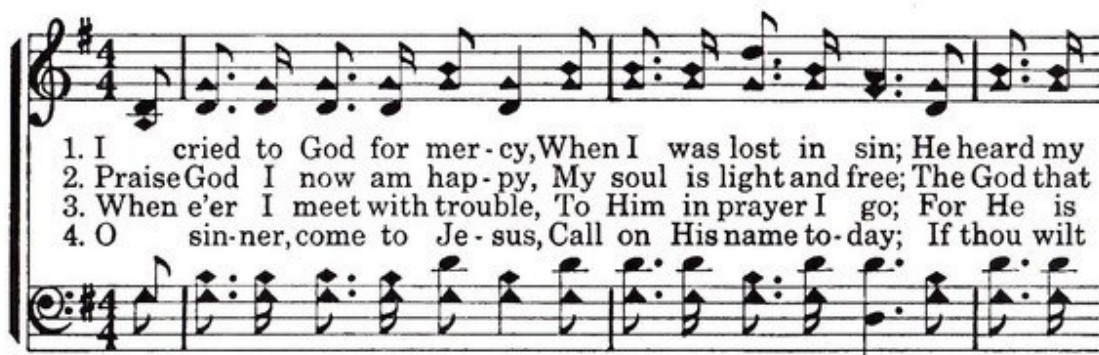
us closer to God but strengthens the Church, brings light to this dark world, and brings forth fruit that remains. From henceforth and beyond,

**LET EACH OF US OCCUPY 2025 IN THE MINISTRY AS AN ORGANIZED BODY OF CHRIST BY OUR VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE!**

## God Answered Prayer For Me


U. P.

Ulysses Phillips

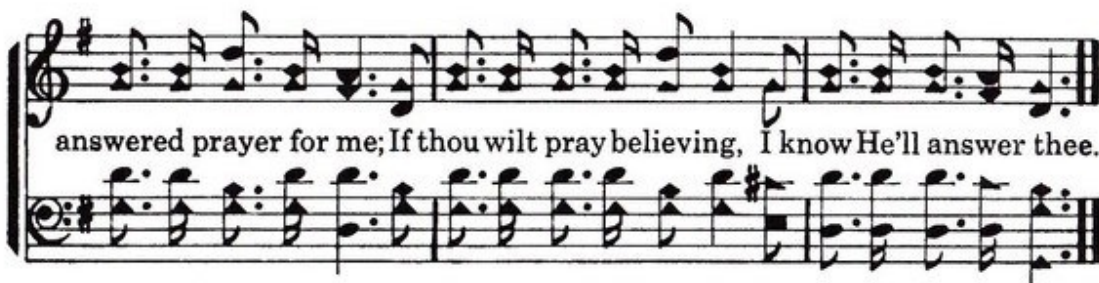


1. I cried to God for mer-cy, When I was lost in sin; He heard my  
2. Praise God I now am hap-py, My soul is light and free; The God that  
3. When e'er I meet with trouble, To Him in prayer I go; For He is  
4. O sin-ner, come to Je-sus, Call on His name to-day; If thou wilt

### CHORUS



ear-nest pleadings And free-ly took me in.  
heard old Dan-iel, Has answered prayer for me. God answered prayer for me, He  
al-ways will-ing To an-swer me I know.  
come be-liev-ing, He'll wash thy sins a-way.



answered prayer for me; If thou wilt pray believing, I know He'll answer thee.

## Church Building Projects

Project: **Reinforcement of Existing Concrete Perimeter Fence**

Progress: Laying of Concrete Hollow Blocks at Front and Right Side— done. Plastering of Exterior Face of Fence— done.

Ongoing: Plastering of Interior



Project: **Construction of Pastoral House**

Progress: Foundation Works—done; Septic Tank—done;

Ongoing: Concreting of Columns, Installation of Sanitary Piping System, Laying of CHB for walls



## Mission Update

**Ozamiz City: White unto Harvest!**

Last week, Ma'am Evel and Ma'am Mariz traveled to Ozamiz City to continue laying the groundwork for our mission. Through soulwinning and Bible studies, they have started gathering people and planting seeds of the Gospel in the area.

They also conducted an ocular visit to a potential mission house and were able to discuss the details with the property owner. As part of building good connections within the community, they made a courtesy visit to local government officials.

Let's continue to pray for God's clear leading, provision, and for the missionary who will soon be sent to labor in Ozamiz City. May the Lord bless this new work for His glory!





## MGA BAGAY NA NAIS NG DIOS NA IYONG MALAMAN, KAIBIGAN:

### ANG SABI NG DIOS: Romans 3:23

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" *Ikaw ay nagkasala sa Dios.*

### ANG SABI NG DIOS: Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death..." **Revelation 21:8**  
"...shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." *Babayaran mo ang iyong kasalanan sa IMPIYERNO.*

### ANG SABI NG DIOS: Romans 5:8

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." *Inako ni Kristo ang kabayaran ng ating kasalanan doon sa krus ng Kalbaryo.*

### ANG UTOS NG DIOS: Romans 10:9

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." *Manampalataya ka sa iyong puso na si Kristo ay namatay, inilibing at nabuhay na mag-uli para sa iyo.*

### ANG UTOS NG DIOS: Romans 10:13

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." *Kapag tatawag ka sa pangalan ng Panginoon, ililigtas ka Niya sa impiyerno.*

### ANG PANGAKO NG DIOS: Romans 6:23

"...but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." *-Ang tanging daan tungo sa sangkalangitan ay sa pamamagitan ng pagtanggap mo ng kaniyang kaloob na buhay na walang hanggan kay Kristo Hesus.*

### MANALANGIN KA NG GANITO:

*"Panginoong Hesus, inaamin ko pong ako'y isang makasalanan. Patawarin po Ninyo ako. Salamat po sa pag-ibig Ninyo. Nananampalataya ako na Ikaw ay namatay, inilibing at muling nabuhay para pagbayaran ang aking mga kasalanan. Tinatanggap Kita bilang aking Panginoon at sariling Tagapagligtas. Salamat po sa pag-asa ng Langit at ng bagong buhay. Amen"*

### ANG DEKLARASYON NG DIOS: John 1:12

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" **Romans 8:1** "...no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus..." **John 10:27-29** "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

BE OCCUPIED IN READING  
YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE  
IN 365 DAYS!



SCAN ME

## BIBLE READING SCHEDULE (Day 22 - 28)

Mon	21-JUL	Luke 17; Genesis 29; Psalm 22
Tue	22-JUL	Luke 18:1-17; Genesis 30; Psalm 23
Wed	23-JUL	Luke 18:18-43; Genesis 31; Psalm 24
Thu	24-JUL	Luke 19:1-27; Genesis 32-33; Psalm 25
Fri	25-JUL	Luke 19:28-48; Genesis 34; Psalm 26
Sat	26-JUL	Luke 20:1-26; Genesis 35-36; Psalm 27
Sun	27-JUL	Luke 20:27-47; Genesis 37; Psalm 28

## LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM	517	FTV	42
Sunday PM	223	Baptism	14
Prayer Mtg	156		

## REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Sunday School · 8:30 AM  
Morning Service · 10:00 AM  
Discipleship · 4:00 PM  
Afternoon Service · 5:00 PM  
Group Fellowship · 8:00 PM

### WEDNESDAY

Doctrine Class · 5:30 PM  
Prayer Meeting · 6:30 PM

### THURSDAY

Soulwinning · 5:30 PM

### FRIDAY

Orchestra Practice · 7:00 PM

### SATURDAY

Whole Day Area Visitation  
& Soulwinning · 8:30 AM  
Choir Practice · 3:00 PM ·  
SST Mtg · 3:30 PM  
Sabbath Class · 5:00 PM

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